

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 04192 081405Z
ACTION ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 GAO-02 /018 W
-----042393 081410Z /75

R 081123Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2199

UNCLAS CARACAS 4192

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AGAO, EMIN, VE
SUBJ: VISIT OF GAO REPRESENTATIVES

REF: A. STATE 65436, B. CARACAS A-01, C. CARACAS 2679,
D. 77-CARACAS A-58.

1. FOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON VENEZUELA ALUMINUM INDUSTRY,
PLANS FOR ALUMINA PLANT (OPERATIONAL 1981-82) AND BAUXITE EXPLOITA-
TION
(IN FEASIBILITY STUDY STAGE) WE RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT PROVIDE GAO
REPS WITH COPIES OF REFS B,C, AND D AND PREVIOUS EMBASSY REPORTING
THESE SUBJECTS.

2. BOTH OF VENEZUELA'S ALUMINUM PLANTS WERE ESTABLISHED BY A
GOV AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORIGANIZATION, THE COPORACION
VENEZOLANA DE GUAYANA (CVG), WHICH ALSO HOLDS EIGHTY PER CENT
INTEREST

IN ONE, FIFTY IN THE OTHER. THE ALUMINA PLANT PROJECT IS BEING
EXECUTED BY THE CVG AND IT APPEARS AT THIS STAGE THAT BAUXITE DEVELOP

-
MENT WILL ALSO BE CARRIED OUT BY THIS AGENCY BECAUSE THE EXPLOITATION
OF BAUXITE HAS BEEN PROPOSED IN TERMS OF SUPPLYING LOCAL DEMAND,
RATHER THAN FOR EXPORT. CVG'S PRIMARY ROLE IN THE BAUXITE/ALUMINA/
ALUMINUM AREAS IS REINFORCED BY CURRENT GOV POLICY NOT TO PROMOTE
UNPROCESSED MINERAL EXPORTS BUT RATHER TO INCORPORATE RAW MATERIALS
INTO SEMI-PROCESSED, OR FINISHED GOODS TO CAPTURE VALUE ADDED FOR
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NATIONAL ECONOMY. AT THIS POINT, ALUMINA PLANT AND BAUXITE EX-
PLOITATION ARE REGARDED AS CVG PROJECTS. AS SUCH CENTRAL BANK AND
MINISTRIES LISTED PAR 1 REF A ARE NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED AND ARE NOT
IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON FUTURE BAUXITE PRICE POLICY
AND ALUMINA REFINING TECHNOLOGIES. IN LIEU OF APPOINTMENTS REQUESTED
WE WOULD SUGGEST MEETINGS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN MINISTRY OF
ENERGY AND MINES AS TO TYPE AND EXTENT OF BAUXITE RESERVES; AND IN

FOREIGN TRADE INSTITUTE ON PROBABLE TRADE POLICY. INFORMATION AS TO ALUMINA PROCESSING AND CURRENT ALUMINUM OPERATIONS CAN BEST BE SECURED IN CIUDAD GUAYANA WHERE THE TWO EXISTING CVG ALUMINUM PLANTS AND THE PROPOSED ALUMINA PLANT ARE LOCATED.

3. HOTEL RESERVATIONS MADE. CONTROL OFFICER IS CHARLES H. DUDLEY, OFFICE TEL: 284-71.11 EXT. 68 OR 69; HOME 751-49.41.
VAKY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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TAGS: AGAO, EMIN, VE
To: STATE
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